

29 Charlotte Terrace, Barnsbury Road  
Islington, July 24<sup>th</sup> 1851

Dear Madam.

Before this reaches you, you will probably have learned from the Daily papers the fact that Mr. Thompson passed through his first ordeal with his Constituency successfully. I can however give you all likely from that source to learn little more than the bare result, the spirit of the meeting will not be fairly described. At the very outset ~~of the meeting~~ there were strong symptoms of dissatisfaction and opposition, which ultimately displayed themselves in the shape of a hostile amendment. A resolution was moved approving of Mr. Thompson's past proceedings, and pledging the meeting to his future support in the former Hamlets. An amendment was proposed declaring Mr. Thompson an unfit and improper person to represent the borough. The speech which Mr. Thompson had prepared, as is the case with him upon all occasions of unexpected opposition, went to the winds. He was an intellectual giant, clad in the most invulnerable armor

which a man can be arrayed in, the moral greatness of  
the cause in which he had been engaged, and for  
the advocacy of which he was then publicly arraigned.  
His speech was short, but one of the most manly  
eloquent and effective I ever heard even him  
deliver. I will take care you shall have an  
opportunity of reading it, if not on this side of  
the Atlantic in the columns of the Liberator.  
There was no cringing before the democratic power  
here any more than there was before the slave  
power in America. He stood before his con-  
stituents, but not cap in hand. While paying  
them all due courtesy he never forgot his own  
self-respect. He rapidly sketched his own  
career as an Anti-Slavery advocate, describing  
his visit to America in 1835, the reasons which  
led to his second visit in 1850, the circumstances  
~~which attended~~ attending that visit, his being compelled  
to vindicate the right of free speech, his successful  
assertion of that right, the result of his mission  
on both sides of the Atlantic, his repudiation  
of all narrow or sectarian views in the advo-  
cacy of the cause of liberty, his hope that  
their own feelings were founded with his  
in reference to American slavery, but whether

that were so or not, and whatever might be the verdict they pronounced upon that occasion, he announced his firm determination never to abandon the sacred cause of negro emancipation, with which his name is so intimately identified. If their decision was hostile he would retire from the representation of the Tower Hamlets, but he shamed do so with the proud satisfaction that in that which they had condemned him he had done his duty in a great and glorious contest. The effect was irresistible. The audience nearly 3.000 in number were almost mad with enthusiasm. Not a single hand, not even those of the mover and seconder, was held up for the amendment, and the original motion was carried with only one dissentient.

The speeches were decidedly and strongly anti-slavery. The Tower Hamlets may now be considered formally and emphatically to have censured American Slavery, not only before the American visitors to England, but in the presence of the representatives of the whole world.

There was an amusing episode during the

proceedings. One of the speakers was referring to the fact that Mr. Thompson was never paid for his services. This was pronounced by a man upon the platform to be false. The enraged auditory seized the culprit and dragged him to the front of the platform, where he was compelled to explain that he had heard somebody say that Mr. Thompson was paid, and finally he apologized for his interruption.

To night another meeting is to be held at the Edinburgh Castle, Blediswell Road, Linelhouse, this evening

I am --, Dear Madame,

Yours most truly

J. Farmer

Mrs Chapman.